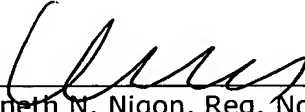


Remarks/Arguments:

Applicant respectfully requests that the amendments to the application be entered prior to examination. These amendments conform the claims to U.S. practice. No new matter is added.

Respectfully submitted,


Kenneth N. Nigon, Reg. No. 31,549
Attorney for Applicants

KNN/pb

Dated: December 22, 2005

☒ P.O. Box 980
Valley Forge, PA 19482
(610) 407-0700

☐ P.O. Box 1596
Wilmington, DE 19899
(302) 778-2500

The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **18-0350** for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith..

EXPRESS MAIL

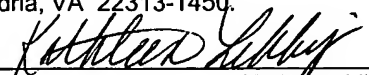
Mailing Label Number:

EL 985026558 US

Date of Deposit:

December 22, 2005

I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Kathleen Libby

PCB_I:\GRY\142US\PRELIMAMEND12-22-05.DOC